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Dated: July 10, 2007

Signature: _____

(William A. Di Bianca, Patent Agent)

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-437 CIPCIPCIPCIPCIPCIPCIIP
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Pre Patent Application of:
Zubok et al.

Application No.: 10/782,981

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: February 20, 2004

Examiner: B. E. Pellegrino

For: WEDGE RAMP DISTRACTOR AND
RELATED METHODS FOR USE IN
IMPLANTING ARTIFICIAL
INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT &
REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF INFORMATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 (C)**

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. A copy of each reference which is not a U.S. patent or patent application is enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.


It is respectfully requested that the references cited in the enclosed form be considered pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). Please charge deposit account No. 12-1095 in the amount of \$180.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). In the event that any additional fee is due in connection with the present request, the same should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

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In the event that any additional fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: July 10, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Used in Lieu of PTO/SB/08A/B
(Based on PTO 04-07 version)

Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/782,981-Conf. #7131
				Filing Date	February 20, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Rafail Zubok
				Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	B. E. Pellegrino
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SPINE 3.0-437 CIPCIPCIPCIPCIPCIPICIP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	US-6,159,215	12-12-2000	Urbahns et al.	
	AB	US-6,261,296	7-17-2001	Aebi et al.	
	AC	US-6,652,533	11-25-2003	O'Neil	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	EP-1219266	07-03-2002	Ulrich GmbH & Co Kg		**
	BB	WO-9113598	09-19-1991	J.B.S. S.A.		**

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T ²

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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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